STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SB. F. 2017-01

to amend the SGA Election Code

August 21, 2017

Sponsored by Senators G. BUTTS, D. SIMON, I. THOMAS, & T. CELLES

WHEREAS, Northwestern State University used to conduct Student Body Elections in voting machines located in the lobby of the Student Union; and

WHEREAS, having a face-to-face voting system necessitated that elections take place over the course of two days to account for every students' schedule; and

WHEREAS, Student Body Elections are now held online; and

WHEREAS, the Student Government Association wishes to streamline and simplify the voting process; and

WHEREAS, a selection process was instituted for the positions of Mr. and Miss NSU two years ago; and

WHEREAS, this process has proved to not be as objective as originally anticipated and the time frame for convening the selection committee has been problematic;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Election Code be amended as follows:

ARTICLE III
QUALIFICATIONS

Section 4- MR. AND MISS NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
A. All nominees for Mr. and Miss Northwestern State University must receive a minimum of five (5) nominations from five (5) separate Recognized Student Organizations, be classified as a senior in good standing as outlined in the University Catalog, and have a cumulative grade point average of at least a 3.0 to be placed on the ballot.

B. The male student receiving the majority of votes cast in the election for this position shall be declared Mr. NSU.

C. The female student receiving the majority of votes cast in the election for this position shall be declared Miss NSU.

D. If a nominee fails to receive a majority of votes cast, the two nominees receiving the most votes will be placed on the ballot for a runoff election until a majority of votes is received.

ARTICLE VI

SECTION 1- ELECTION DATES
A. Student Body Election shall take place within the first six (6) weeks of the fall semester and at least two (2) weeks before the end of the spring semester. The Vice-President shall establish these dates at the first meeting of the SGA with the approval of the majority of the Senate. This can take place after the inauguration of SGA members in the spring or at the first meeting of the fall. The Student Body Election shall take place over the

course of a twenty-four (24) hour period with the polls opening at 8:00 am and closing at 8:00am the following day. Any runoff elections must take place within 7 days of the conclusion of the Student Body Election and will open at 8:00 am and close at 4:00 pm the same day. The Student Government Association Advisor shall inform the SGA of an imperative issues with the University Calendar in selecting these dates.

OTHA C. NELSON, III
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

FRANCES WATKINS CONINE
VP of the STUDENT EXPERIENCE
DEAN OF STUDENTS

DR. CHRIS MAGGIO
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

FB. F. 2017-01

to provide emergency funding for travel to groups assisting with relief efforts for Hurricane Harvey

August 29, 2017

Sponsored by Senators I. THOMAS, D. SIMON, T. MCBROOM, G. BUTTS, J. HAMMONS, C. WILSON, & A. STEWART

WHEREAS, Hurricane Harvey has devastated large areas of Texas and Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, members of the Northwestern State Student Body have expressed their desire to assist those who have been affected by this storm and subsequent flooding; and

WHEREAS, the Student Government Association wishes to assist groups with these relief efforts;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association make an emergency allocation of $10,000 to assist with transportation and hotel costs associated with relief efforts by approved student groups from the Organizational Relief Fund Account.

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SGA Advisor work with the Office of the Vice President of the Student Experience in coordinating and identifying groups that qualify for this funding as well as processing all necessary travel paperwork.

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the remaining balance of the allocated funds be returned to the general ORF budget once reimbursements to volunteer groups are made.

OTHA C. NELSON, III

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

SR. F. 2017-01

to encourage student groups against the use of hazing in membership processes

September 18, 2017

Sponsored by Senators T. WRIGHT, Thomas Celles

WHEREAS, September 18, 2017 marks the first day of National Hazing Prevention Week; and

WHEREAS, since 1838 there have been over 200 student deaths associated with hazing; and

WHEREAS, the health and safety of the Student Body is of the utmost importance to the Student Government Association; and

WHEREAS, the practice of hazing, where physical or psychological harm is inflicted on students as part of membership in any group, has absolutely no place at Northwestern State University or at American colleges and universities; and

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association reaffirms our commitment to ensuring that no organization at Northwestern State University shall permit the practice of hazing and that we condemn the use of hazing in any stage of membership in any organization or group not only at this university but at all colleges and universities.

_____

OTHA C. NELSON, III

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SR. F. 2017-02

renaming of Wellness, Recreation and Activities Center

November 6, 2017

Sponsored by Senators R. APLE, J. ELLIS, T. WRIGHT, J. ROBERTS

WHEREAS, Dr. Randall J. Webb is the longest serving President in the history of Northwestern State University; and

WHEREAS, under the tenure of Dr. Webb Northwestern State University was the first university in Louisiana to achieve 100 percent accreditation for all eligible programs; and

WHEREAS, enrollment reached record levels during his presidency; and

WHEREAS, the largest graduating class in NSU history was during the tenure of Dr. Webb, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Webb oversaw the development of the largest electronic education and distance learning network of any university in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Webb secured millions of dollars in funding for new and renovated facilities for students including residence halls, academic buildings, the Jimmy Long, Sr. Student Services Building, and the Wellness, Recreation, and Activity Center; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Webb was known for his deep love of Northwestern State University and endless support for the Student Body; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Webb sadly passed away in November of 2015 less than one year after his retirement; and

WHEREAS, the Student Government Association wishes to see that the memory of Dr. Randall J. Webb be honored at Northwestern State University;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association enthusiastically endorse the University's plan to name the Wellness, Recreation, and Activity Center after Dr. Randall J. Webb to honor his memory and dedicated service to the students of Northwestern State University.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association express its desire to commission a fitting portrait of Dr. Webb to be placed in the WRAC upon the dedication of the building in his honor.

OTHA C. NELSON, III

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SR. F. 2017-03

to show support and congratulations for Dr. Partice Moulton

November 6, 2017

Sponsored by Senators J. ELLIS, T. MCBROOM, E. LEGER

WHEREAS, Dr. Partice Moulton is a professor of psychology at Northwestern State University; and

WHEREAS, the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board has selected Dr. Moulton to receive Fulbright Award for work in Nepal; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Moulton will serve as consultant and cultural ambassador while launching the country's first degree program in counseling psychology; and

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, the Student Government Association of Northwestern State University expresses its congratulations and support for Dr. Moulton for this very prestigious honor.

OTHA C. NELSON, III

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SB. S. 2018-01

to include more faculty information on University department websites

March 5, 2018

Sponsored by Senators E. LEGER, D. LEWIS, & J. ELLIS

WHEREAS, the Northwestern State University website has little information about all faculty and staff members; and

WHEREAS, this information is pertinent to the success of all students in all degree programs; and

WHEREAS, potential graduate students have a particular interest in this information being readily available;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association respectfully requests that each college, school, and department on the Northwestern State University website house a faculty and staff page consisting of name, photograph, contact information, degrees and accolades, research interests, and a short personal biography for all faculty and staff members.

OTHA C. NELSON, III
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

FRANCES WATKINS CONINE
VP of the STUDENT EXPERIENCE
DEAN OF STUDENTS

DR. CHRIS MAGGIO
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SB. S. 2018-02

to establish a memorial to fallen students

March 12, 2018

Sponsored by Senators T. BUSSELL & E. COLEMAN

WHEREAS, over the course of the 134 year history of Northwestern State University there have been students whose lives have been tragically lost during their time here; and

WHEREAS, the Student Government Association wishes to honor the memory of those students whose lives have been cut short due to tragic circumstances;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOVED, that a committee be formed and members appointed by the Student Body President to design a suitable memorial to all students whose lives have been lost while at NSU, to find an appropriate location for the memorial, and to obtain all necessary approvals from the University Administration to place the memorial on campus.

THEREFORE LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association both seek and provide funding for the memorial.

OTHA C. NELSON, III
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

FRANCES WATKINS CONINE
VP of the STUDENT EXPERIENCE
DEAN OF STUDENTS

DR. CHRIS MAGGIO
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SR. S. 2018-01

to show that Natchitoches is the home of NSU

April 23, 2018

Sponsored by Senators Jacob Hammonds and Jacob Ellis

WHEREAS, the relationship between the city of Natchitoches and Northwestern State University is special and mutually dependent on one another; and

WHEREAS, many cities that have a college or university present denote on the city welcome sign that they are home to said college or university; and

WHEREAS, there is a sign on University Parkway as you enter the city limits that welcomes travelers to the city of Natchitoches as well as near the interstate; and

WHEREAS, it does not state anywhere that Natchitoches is the home of Northwestern State University on either of these signs;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Northwestern State University Student Government Association expresses its desire to the Mayor and City Council of the city of Natchitoches to see the designation of Natchitoches as the home of Northwestern State University on current or future signage.

OTHA C. NELSON, III

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SB. S. 2018-03

to create a Demon mascot committee

April 23, 2018

Sponsored by Senators Tristian Bussell, and Taylor McBroom

WHEREAS, "Vic The Demon" is the official mascot of Northwestern State University; and

WHEREAS, the mascot is the embodiment of spirit and tradition for the University; and

WHEREAS, being the physical embodiment of spirit and tradition for the University necessitates that the mascot should at all times reflect honor and dignity upon the university; and

WHEREAS, the SGA has traditionally had a role in oversight and funding of the mascot costume; and

WHEREAS, the first Student Body President was one of the students who suggested "Demons" as the official mascot for the University,

WHEREAS, over the past few years the Student Government Association has spent thousands of dollars on providing a new suit to the mascot, "Vic The Demon" on the 90th anniversary of him becoming the mascot; and

WHEREAS, the SGA has also provided replacement clothing, gloves, tail, and funded the total refurbishment of the mascot head after it was severely damaged; and

WHEREAS, "Vic The Demon" has made many public appearances recently while not fully in costume; and

WHEREAS, many members of the NSU community have expressed embarrassment at the appearance of the mascot;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the SGA amend the bylaws to provide for a Mascot Committee that shall oversee the mascot and develop guidelines in accordance with best practices for collegiate mascots as follows:

ARTICLE VI

STUDENT AFFAIRS

SECTION 2-STANDING COMMITTEES

5. The Demon Mascot Committee, which shall develop guidelines for the official university mascot, "Vic The Demon" in accordance with best practices for collegiate mascots

OTHA NELSON III
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

FRANCES WATKINS CONINE
DEAN OF STUDENTS

DR. CHRIS MAGGIO
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SB. S. 2018-04

to update media board guidelines

April 23, 2018

Sponsored by Senators Elizabeth Coleman and Emilee Leger

WHEREAS, changes to student self-assessed fees, academic department reorganizations, changes to course numbers in these departments, and the need for professional advising staff have necessitated updates to the Media Board Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, these updates have been made with the input of the Media Board chair, student leaders, academic department heads, and student media advisors; and

WHEREAS, these changes will allow the Media Board to more effectively oversee student media;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the following be adopted as the new Media Board Guidelines:

MEDIA BOARD GUIDELINES

SECTION 1- PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY OF MEDIA BOARD

The Media Board of Northwestern State University shall serve as the advisory and selection committee for all Student Media. It shall in no way act as a censoring agent, unless otherwise specified in this document.

SECTION 2- MEDIA BOARD MEMBERSHIP

A. *Members of the Media Board will consist of the following:*

1. *Chair*
    - ***a.*** *University Vice President of External Affairs or designee*
    - ***b.*** *The chair shall vote only to break a tie*
2. *Vice Chair*
    - ***a.*** *Student Body President*
3. *General Members*
    - ***a.*** *SGA Treasurer*
    - ***b.*** *Designee of the University President*
    - ***c.*** *Designee of the Student Body President*
    - ***d.*** *Two faculty/staff members selected by the Department Head of New Media, Journalism, and Communication Arts (cannot be advisor to any student media)*
    - ***e.*** *One faculty/staff member selected by the Department Head of English, Foreign Languages, and Cultural Studies (cannot be advisor to any student media)*
4. *Non-voting ex-officio members*
    - ***a.*** *Any advisor to student media*

B. *Members shall be appointed each academic year*

SECTION 3- POWERS AND DUTIES

The powers of the Media Board shall be as follows:

1. *To recommend the advisor of each publication and the radio station to the respective academic department head.*
2. *To select all Editors-in-Chiefs and managers of student publications and the radio station according to the guidelines mentioned herein.*
3. *To provide a forum for issues related to policies concerning student media.*
4. *To make suitable recommendations to University Administration and/or the Student Government Association.*
5. *To review budgets, policies, operations, and to ensure professional standards and best practices in student media.*

SECTION 4- STUDENT MEDIA COORDINATOR

A. *The Media Board may establish a Student Media Coordinator position to be funded from each respective Student Media budget that the individual appointed will advise.*

B. *The duties of the Student Media Coordinator shall be to:*

1. *Advise the student newspaper, yearbook, and radio station*
2. *Manage budgets, contracts, legal, personnel, recruiting, marketing, scholarships, event planning, professional and personal development for student staff, curriculum advising, and collaboration with departmental and university faculty and staff*
3. *Ensure professional standards and best practices in student media*

C. *The Student Media Coordinator shall report to the Department Head for New Media, Journalism, and Communication Arts*

SECTION 5- ARGUS ADVISOR

A. *The duties of the Argus Advisor shall be to:*

1. *Advise the student literary magazine*
2. *Manage budgets, contracts, legal, personnel, recruiting, marketing, scholarships, event planning, professional and personal development for student staff, curriculum advising, and collaboration with departmental and university faculty and staff.*
3. *Ensure professional standards and best practices in student media*

B. *The Argus Advisor shall report to the Department Head of English, Foreign Languages and Cultural Studies.*

SECTION 6- STUDENT MEDIA

A. *The official Student Media of Northwestern State University shall be as follows:*

1. *The official Student Newspaper shall be The Current Sauce*
2. *The official Student Yearbook shall be The Potpourri*
3. *The official Student Literary Magazine shall be The Argus*
4. *The official Student Radio Station shall be KNWD-FM*

B. *The Student Media will receive their funding as a Student Self-Assessed Fee through the Student Government Association.*

C. *Responsibilities of the Student Media Editors-in-Chief and the General Manager shall be:*

1. *The Editors-in-Chief and the General Manager will be responsible for maintaining publications, and broadcast, respectively, of the best quality in all possible outlets.*
2. *Editors-in Chief and the General Manager will be responsible to adhering to the guidelines set in these Media Board Guidelines and current industry professional standards.*
3. *In the Current Sauce, Potpourri, and KNWD, Editors-in-Chief and the General Manager are responsible for ensuring campus news, sports, and student life are included in content.*
4. *The Editor-in-Chief of Argus is responsible for sharing the creative output of the entire student community in a professional venue. Publications will feature written and visual art across multiple genres.*
5. *Editors-in-Chief and General Manager must consult with the student media advisor, faculty, and/or other media professionals to review post-publication the content and quality.*
6. *Editors-in-Chief and General Manager may recommend only, not approve, each semester students to receive scholarships.*
7. *Editors-in-Chief and General Manager must prepare a proposed budget for review by the student media advisor to be presented to the Student Government Association and Student Media Board.*

SECTION 7- QUALIFICATIONS

A. *An applicant for position of Editor-in-Chief or General Manager of any Student Media must:*

1. *Be a full-time undergraduate student at Northwestern State University at the time of application and be enrolled as a full-time undergraduate throughout the student's term.*
2. *Have a 2.5 cumulative GPA at the time of application and earn a 2.0 GPA each semester during his or her term.*
3. *Be in good academic and disciplinary standing with the University at the time of application and maintain that standing throughout the student's term.*
4. *Have completed at least 45 credit hours as determined by the Office of the Registrar.*
5. *Not serve, at the same time of the student's term as Editor-in-Chief or General Manager, in any other position at this University that receives a scholarship from Student Association Fees.*

6. *File a list of names at the time of application of proposed staff members. The Media Board shall determine whether each candidate is qualified to serve in the position based upon a recommendation of the student media advisor.*
7. *Not serve on the Executive Board of the Student Government Association while acting as Editor-in-Chief or General Manager.*

B. *The applicant for position of Current Sauce Editor-in-Chief must meet the following requirements:*

1. *Applicant must have completed an approved writing for mass media course and an approved editing course before the applicant's term as editor. The applicant must have also taken an approved communications law course or enroll in and pass the course during the Fall semester of the applicant's term with a grade of "C" or better. The applicant is subject to removal if the applicant drops or earns less than a grade of "C" in the course during the term of service. Permission may be obtained to apply from the Department Head of New Media, Journalism, and Communication Arts.*

C. *The applicant for position of Argus Editor-in-Chief must meet the following requirements:*

1. *Applicant must have completed at least six hours in upper level (3000 or above) English courses with a 3.0 GPA in English or have graduate student standing, as determined by the Registrar. Permission may be obtained to apply from the Department Head of English, Foreign Languages, and Cultural Studies if any of these requirements have not been met.*

D. *The applicant for position of KNWD-FM General Manager must meet the following requirements:*

1. *Applicant must have completed an approved communications practicum in the radio area; approved radio production course and an approved communication law course as determined by the Registrar or enroll in and pass the course during the Fall semester of the applicant's term with a grade of "C" or better. The applicant is subject to removal if the applicant drops or earns less than a grade of "C" in the course during the term of service. Permission may be obtained to apply from the Department Head of New Media, Journalism, and Communication Arts if any of these requirements have not been met.*

E. *An Editor-in-Chief or General Manager will be removed from office by a 2/3 vote of the Media Board if the student fails to meet the requirements set by the Media Board Guidelines or the University.*

F. *If the Senate rejects a recommendation, from the Media Board, for Editor-in-Chief or General Manager, the Media Board may recommend to the Senate the individual who best fulfills the qualifications.*

SECTION 8- MEDIA BOARD MEETINGS

A. *The procedures of the Media Board shall be in accordance with the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order.*

B. *The Secretary of the SGA or designee will attend each Media Board meeting to take minutes. A copy of these minutes must be submitted to the Senate and the Media Board members electronically.*

C. *The Media Board will hold meetings when deemed necessary by the Chair with at least 48 hours' notice.*

D. *Applicants must be given at least 7 days' notice before the selection meeting to apply to be a student media editor or general manager.*

E. *A quorum (six members) of Media Board members must be present at each meeting to conduct business.*

F. *Media Board meetings will comply with the State of Louisiana's open meeting laws.*

G. *Voting will be done in executive session.*

SECTION 9- SCHOLARSHIPS

A. *The Potpourri Editor-in-Chief, the Current Sauce Editor-in-Chief, the KNWD-FM General Manager, and the Argus Editor shall receive a scholarship not to exceed the cost of up to 12 hours of tuition plus a $3,000 stipend each fall and spring.*

B. *The Potpourri shall receive no more than $34,000 in scholarships annually including the scholarship of the Editor-in-Chief.*

C. *The Current Sauce shall receive no more than $34,000 in scholarships annually, including that of the Editor-in-Chief.*

D. *KNWD-FM shall receive no more than $34,000 annually including that of the General Manager.*

E. *The Argus shall receive no more than $15,000 annually including that of the Editor.*

F. *No individual student staff member of Current Sauce, Potpourri, or KNWD-FM can receive more or equal funding than that of the General Managers or Editors-in-Chiefs in their respective department.*

G. *The student media advisor must approve the staff scholarship amounts each semester.*

H. *If for any reason an editor or manager is unable to complete his or his term, the scholarship recipient will refund the scholarship for said semester that the position is vacated if so specified by a two-thirds vote of the Student Government Association Senate.*

SECTION 10-BUDGETS

A. *The Editors-in-Chief and General Manager of the radio station, in conjunction with the student media advisor, shall submit an expense report/budget to Fiscal Affairs at the beginning of each semester when said budget will take effect.*

B. *The Media Board shall work with the Student Government Association and/or the Department of Fiscal Affairs when any student media budget is being reviewed or questioned.*

SECTION 11- CENSORSHIP

No individual, except the Editor-in-Chief of the publication or the General Manager of the radio station, shall be allowed to censor any student media, as long as each publication or broadcast adheres to all Federal laws and regulations that govern such media and meets professional standards and best practices of student media.

SECTION 12- TERMS OF OFFICE

The selected Editors-in-Chief and General Manager of the radio station shall serve a term of one (1) year from the day of spring graduation until the following spring graduation.

SECTION 13- AMENDMENTS

These guidelines shall be amended in the same manner as the Student Government Association Bylaws as outlined in the Student Government Association Constitution.

OTHA NELSON III
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

FRANCES WATKINS CONINE
DEAN OF STUDENTS

DR. CHRIS MAGGIO
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SB. S. 2018-05

to enforce concert committee spending

April 23, 2018

Sponsored by LaJarious Jones, Jacob Ellis, Thomas Celles, Ieshia Thomas

WHEREAS, in 2015 the Student Government Association created the Concert Fee with the approval of the Student Body in a student fee referendum; and

WHEREAS, this fee has proved very successful in increasing the quality of musical acts for students at NSU; and

WHEREAS, the SGA wishes for the continued success of the Concert Fee by adding some additional guidelines to better oversee the committee and for the committee to operate more smoothly;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the following amendments be made to the Concert Fee Guidelines:

CONCERT FEE GUIDELINES

SECTION 2-MEMBERS

A. *The following shall be members of the Concert Fee Committee:*

2. *A representative from the Student Government Association chosen by the SGA President and approved by the Senate who shall serve as vice chair.*

B. *Members shall serve a term of one year. Members shall be selected by the last day of classes of the spring semester*

SECTION 4-GUIDELINES

A. *The committee shall meet as often as necessary to fulfill its purpose and is encouraged to seek student input and look for ways to collaborate with other groups or departments if possible. The committee chair shall set meeting times at the beginning of each semester and should hold at least two meetings over the course of the summer. Decisions of the committee will be determined by a simple majority of votes cast. Only recommendations of the committee may be considered for funding through the concert fee.*

B. *At least 70% of the budget shall be spent each fiscal year unless approval is granted by the SGA Senate to reduce the amount. The reduction request must be made in writing. The committee shall petition the Student Government Association for additional funding through a student fee referendum if necessary.*

OTHA NELSON III
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

FRANCES WATKINS CONINE
DEAN OF STUDENTS

DR. CHRIS MAGGIO
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT